IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 12, line 9 with the following paragraph:

As illustrated in **Figure 6**, in one embodiment, one or more of the leaf splitters (e.g., leaf splitter 631) are configured as backups to the primary root splitter 630. In this embodiment, the health of the root splitter is continually monitored by a monitoring subsystem <u>626</u> which may reside on the load balancer module 625, the redirection subsystem 625, or as a separate monitoring module and the data center and/or the POP site 620.

Please replace the paragraph at page 12, line 15 with the following paragraph:

In one embodiment, the root splitter 630 is configured to provide an update to the monitoring subsystem <u>626</u> at predetermined intervals. This may be accomplished by an agent 640 continually running on the root splitter 630and configured to communicate with the monitoring subsystem <u>626</u>. The periodic update in this embodiment acts as a "heartbeat" which indicates to the monitoring subsystem <u>626</u> that the root splitter is operating within normal parameters. If the monitoring subsystem <u>626</u> does not receive an update for one or more periods, it may determine that the root splitter has become inoperative and assign the backup root splitter 631 as the new primary root splitter. In one embodiment, the agent 641 running on the backup root splitter 631 performs the reconfiguration process. Alternatively, or in addition, the monitoring subsystem <u>626</u> may actively poll the agent 640 running on the root splitter 630 to verify that the root splitter 630 is operating reliably.

Please replace the paragraph at page 14, line 1 with the following paragraph:

At 725, a root splitter failure is detected by the monitoring subsystem <u>626</u> (e.g., via one or more of the failure detection techniques described above). As a result, the monitoring subsystem <u>626</u> directs the backup root splitter 631 (e.g., via the backup agent 641) to reconfigure itself as the new primary root splitter 630. In addition, the monitoring subsystem <u>626</u> and/or the backup agent 641 directs the load balancer 625 to remove the backup root splitter 631 from the group of leaf splitters 631-635 monitored by the load balancer module 625.

Please replace the paragraph at page 16 line 1 with the following paragraph:

Thus, in this embodiment, when the monitoring subsystem <u>626</u> detects a failure in the primary WMT root splitter 630, it must not only reconfigure the load balancer 625 to remove the backup root splitter 631 from the leaf splitter group, it must also reconfigure all the "Broadcast Publishing Point(3)" on the remaining leaf splitters 632-635 so that they reference the new root splitter 631. In addition, the new root splitter 631 must be reconfigured to remove its "Broadcast Publishing Point(3)" and now expose "Broadcast Publishing Point(2)," which points back to the origin server's 510's publishing point.